

### In the Claims

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

1. (Currently Amended) A device with a fuel cell stack (1) and an external cooling device, so arranged that the heat from the fuel cells is transferred to the cooling device mainly by thermal radiation, and wherein an electrode of a fuel cell is separated from an adjacent passage or space for supply of a working medium by a perforated plate (9), in which a size and/or density of holes increases from a midline (13) to an edge and the mid-line runs parallel to a flow direction (14) of the working medium.
2. (Original) Device according to claim 1, in which the cooling device is formed from tubes (2), whereby the tubes are arranged in a supply space (7) or an exhaust space (3) for fuel.
3. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, in which the external cooling device and the fuel cell stack are arranged together in a housing.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 1, in which the size and/or density of the holes at the edge is at least about 5%, preferably about 20% greater than the size and/or density of the holes close to the midline.
6. (Previously Presented) Method of operating a device with the features according to claim 1, in which the fuel cell stack is cooled externally by evaporation of a cooling medium in the adjacently-arranged cooling device, whereby the heat from the fuel cells is transferred to the cooling device mainly through thermal radiation.